



Randolph Community Forest

Sustainable forestry & traditional uses on 10,000 acres in Randolph, NH

- Date:** March 4, 2026
- Location:** Randolph Town Hall
- Members Present:** Mark Kelley, Tim Mather, Nathaniel Reid, David Willcox, Alex Roberts, Rick Fournier, and Laura Brockett
- Guests Present:** David DeGruttola from LandVest (via Zoom), William Demers, and Shelli Fortin, Minutes

Mark Kelley called the meeting to order at 6:28 pm.

I. Review Minutes

On a motion by Nathaniel Reid, seconded by Tim Mather, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the January, 7, 2026, minutes as presented.

On a motion by Laura Brockett, seconded by Tim Mather, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the February 4, 2026, minutes as presented.

II. Financial Review

A. Invoices Received

There were two invoices received this month, both from LandVest; one in the amount of \$4585.42 for the monthly charges, and one for \$7,500 for the third of four installments for the Stewardship Plan.

B. Payments Received

Interest of \$11.40 was earned.

C. Financial Review

Mark Kelley advised that the current total balance in their accounts is approximately \$431,000

III. Julie Evans – Northern Forest Center

Julie Evans came after the meeting to share some information from the Northern Forest Center with members who were still present.

IV. Forester's Report

David DeGruttola noted again that the Little Ledges timber sale was suspended as they were not sure they would be able to move hardwood pulpwood. Mr. DeGruttola also advised that the white birch market recently crashed. They will hope to make up the income on Bowman this summer, if the weather is dry.

Mr. DeGruttola advised that the last email he received from Clint Savage indicated that the NH Trails Bureau would be willing to purchase all 30 cross drain culverts for the Jimtown Road project, as long as the Forest Commission pays for the labor to install them. Mr. DeGruttola stated that he has sent an email to Kelly Eggleston about next steps for the two bridge crossings; one is a culvert that needs to be upgraded to a bridge, and the other bridge is not big enough and will need an engineer for plans.

Mr. DeGruttola advised that he has left another message for Brian Campbell concerning the transects, with no response.

Mr. DeGruttola advised that the management plan will need to be updated for the Potter parcel, and incorporate similar elements of the existing Randolph Stewardship Plan.

Mr. DeGruttola advised that he will need to wait until the roads are dry before visiting the proposed wildlife opening on Deerfly Road with the contractor to develop an estimate.

Mr. DeGruttola advised that he will be meeting with representatives from the White Mountain National Forest to look at the Pond of Safety Road on June 4, 2026 at 9 am.

Mr. DeGruttola noted that spring is just around the corner, and that Fuller has been out tapping trees. Mark Kelley stated that he spoke with Mr. Fuller, and they expected to start around March 1.

V. Other Business

Mark Kelley advised that he spoke with Brad Meiklejohn about the proposed wildlife crossing on Route 2, and advised him that the Commission would not support the project if fencing was required, as it would be on both sides of the

road for miles. There will be a one-hour Zoom meeting on April 6 or 7, 2026 to provide updates on where the project is.

William Demers asked why they are still pushing for the wildlife crossing, and Mark Kelley advised that Federal money is still available.

The Commission questioned how many moose have been hit in the area, and Mark Kelley advised that he was able to get this information from NH State Police. It was noted that wildlife cameras have been installed in the area, and in reviewing still photos taken, there have been none of moose.

VI. Executive Session

There was no executive session needed.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:44 pm by general consensus.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 1, 2026, at 6:30 pm at the Randolph Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelli Fortin